

Amendments to the Claims:

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A method of manufacturing an optical waveguide, comprising:
 - (a) forming a convex ~~part~~member on a substrate;
 - (b) discharging droplets onto an upper surface of the convex ~~part~~member to form a precursor of an optical waveguide ~~part~~member; and
 - (c) hardening the precursor to form an optical waveguide ~~part~~member, the optical waveguide ~~part~~member being formed solely along the convex ~~part~~member.
2. (Currently Amended) The method of manufacturing an optical waveguide according to claim 1, in (a), the convex ~~part~~member being formed on the substrate by providing a base member on the substrate.
3. (Currently Amended) The method of manufacturing an optical waveguide according to claim 2, in (a), the convex ~~part~~member being formed on the substrate by forming a groove in the substrate.
4. (Original) The method of manufacturing an optical waveguide according to claim 1, the precursor being hardened by adding energy.
5. (Original) The method of manufacturing an optical waveguide according to claim 1, the discharging of the droplets being performed according to an ink jet method.
6. (Currently Amended) The method of manufacturing an optical waveguide according to claim 1, further comprising:
 - (d) covering the optical waveguide ~~part~~member with a layer that has a lower refractive index than the optical waveguide ~~part~~member.

7. (Currently Amended) The method of manufacturing an optical waveguide according to claim 1, further comprising:

(e) detaching the optical waveguide ~~part~~member from the substrate.

8. (Currently Amended) The method of manufacturing an optical waveguide according to claim 1, further comprising:

(f) adjusting the wettability for the droplets of an upper surface of the convex ~~part~~member before the droplets are discharged.

9. (Currently Amended) A method of manufacturing an optical waveguide, comprising:

(a) forming a first convex ~~part~~member on a substrate;

(b) forming a second convex ~~part~~member on the substrate in parallel with the first convex ~~part~~member;

(c) discharging first droplets onto an upper surface of the first convex ~~part~~member to form a precursor of an optical waveguide ~~part~~member;

(d) hardening the precursor of the optical waveguide ~~part~~member to form the optical waveguide ~~part~~member;

(e) forming a precursor for a covering layer that is formed on an upper surface of the second convex ~~part~~member and covers the optical waveguide ~~part~~member; and

(f) hardening the precursor for a covering layer to form the covering layer with a lower refractive index than the optical waveguide ~~part~~member,

the entire optical waveguide ~~part~~member being formed solely along the first convex ~~part~~member.

10. (Currently Amended) The method of manufacturing an optical waveguide according to claim 14, in (e), the precursor for a covering layer being formed by discharging

second droplets onto the optical waveguide ~~part-member~~ and the upper surface of the second convex ~~partmember~~.

11. (Currently Amended) The method of manufacturing an optical waveguide according to claim 9, in (b), two of the second convex ~~parts-members~~ are formed and the first convex ~~part-member~~ being disposed between the two second convex ~~partsmembers~~.

12. (Original) The method of manufacturing an optical waveguide according to claim 9, the first and second droplets having a property whereby the droplets can be hardened by applying energy.

13. (Original) The method of manufacturing an optical waveguide according to claim 9, the hardening of the covering layer being performed by adding energy.

14. (Original) The method of manufacturing an optical waveguide according to claim 9, the first and second droplets having a property whereby the droplets are hardened by applying energy.

15. (Original) The method of manufacturing an optical waveguide according to claim 9, the discharging of the first and second droplets being performed according to an ink jet method.

16. (Currently Amended) An optical waveguide, comprising:
a convex ~~part-member~~ provided on a substrate; and
an optical waveguide ~~part-member~~ provided solely on the convex ~~partmember~~,
the convex ~~part-member~~ having a lower refractive index than the optical
waveguide ~~partmember~~.

17. (Canceled)

18. (Currently Amended) The optical waveguide according to claim 16,

a covering layer being formed around the optical waveguide, and the refractive index of the convex part-member and the refractive index of the covering layer are approximately equal.

19. (Currently Amended) The optical waveguide according to claim 16, the convex part-member being integrally formed with the substrate.
20. (Currently Amended) The optical waveguide according to claim 16, a cross-section of the optical waveguide part-member being in the shape of a truncated circle or a truncated oval.
21. (Currently Amended) The optical waveguide according to claim 16, a cross-section of the optical waveguide part-member being in the shape of a circle or an oval.
22. (Currently Amended) The optical waveguide according to claim 16, an upper surface of the convex part-member being a curved surface.
23. (Currently Amended) The optical waveguide according to claims 16, an angle made between an upper surface of the convex part-member and a surface that contacts the upper surface on a side part of the convex part-member being acute.
24. (Currently Amended) The optical waveguide according to claim 16, an upper part of the convex part-member being formed in an inversely tapered shape.
25. (Currently Amended) The optical waveguide according to claim 16, the optical waveguide being buried under a layer with a lower refractive index than the optical waveguide part-member.
26. (Currently Amended) An optical waveguide, comprising:
a first convex part-member provided on a substrate;

an optical waveguide ~~part~~member provided solely on an upper surface of the first convex ~~part~~member;

a second convex ~~part~~member disposed in parallel with the first convex ~~part~~member; and

a covering layer that covers an optical waveguide ~~part~~member and is provided in part on an upper surface of the second convex ~~part~~member.

27. (Currently Amended) The optical waveguide according to claim 26, the optical waveguide includes two of the second convex ~~parts~~members and the first convex ~~part~~member being disposed between the two second convex ~~parts~~members.

28. (Original) A circuit board, comprising:
the optical waveguide according to claim 16;
an IC; and
an optical element.

29. (Original) An optical module, comprising:
the optical waveguide according to claim 16.

30. (Original) An optical transfer apparatus, comprising:
the optical module according to claim 29.

31. (Currently Amended) An optical waveguide, comprising:
a convex ~~part~~member provided on a substrate; and
an optical waveguide ~~part~~member provided solely on the convex ~~part~~member,
the convex ~~part~~member being disposed in parallel with the optical waveguide ~~part~~member.